[5th July 1952

races. There is also now prevention of publication of betting news outside certain limits. This is even now in force. There is no question of stopping that or the publication of all news relating to races."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" Sir, is not the Hon. Minister for Sports, the Raja of Ramnad, in charge of this portfolio? If he is in charge, may I ask why he is not answering this question?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, it is not open to hon. Members to prescribe who should answer but, as the hon. Member apparently wishes to have the information, I will furnish him. It is one thing to be in charge of physical health, sports and activities of that kind on the playing fields and the like, but this is a question of the Police, of the prevention of betting and gaming and so the question has been put to me."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" May I know, Sir, when the Act for the abolition of betting will be enforced and how long it will remain a dead letter as its enforcement has been postponed from time to time?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, there is no such thing here as a dead letter and this is another case of confusion. In the Act it was provided that a date should be fixed for bringing it into force. So the expression 'dead letter' is wrong. The date that has been provisionally fixed by the Government is April of next year."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" Sir, is it the policy of Government to encourage horse-racing or put an end to horse-racing?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, I am answering off-hand for myself and not for the Government. It is my desire that horse-racing should not be discouraged."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" Sir, is it correct that the Hon. the Chief Minister himself gave a grant for a cup for horse-racing in Calcutta?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" It is not relevant, Sir, but I think the hon. Member is correctly informed."

Retrenchment in public expenditure.

* 17 *Q.*—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have carried out any schemes of retrenchment in State public expenditure since the present Ministry assumed office; and

(*b*) if so, whether the Government will lay on the table of the House a list of such schemes together with the savings under each head?

5th July 1952]

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (a) & (b) The matter is under the consideration of the Government."

SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON :—" May I know, Sir, whether this Government has taken into consideration the report submitted by the Retrenchment Committee appointed by the previous Ministry and whether in the course of their present consideration that report will be considered? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, everything is being taken into consideration in effecting retrenchment."

Increase in the rents for stalls in Alandur markets.

* 18 Q.—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state whether any representation has been received by the Government from the Alandur General Market Merchants' Association with regard to the increased and arbitrary levy by the local panchayat board of rents for stalls in the markets taken over by the panchayat board, with effect from 1st April 1952; and if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" Yes. The matter is under correspondence with the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR :—" May I know, Sir, when was the resolution passed by the panchayat board to take over the private market under its control? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" Sir, the information is not available with me now but from the date the Act came into force the panchayat boards cannot allow any private markets."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR :—" Sir, I am aware of it, but may I also know whether notice was issued to the stall-holders before the increase of rent was ordered by the panchayat board, and if so, when was the notice issued and served on the parties? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" Sir, the required information will be obtained and supplied."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR :—" Sir, is it a fact that the increase in the rents ordered by the panchayat board varies from shop to shop and in some cases the increase varies from 50 per cent to 150 per cent and in some even up to 300 per cent? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" Sir, I think it may vary from shop to shop according to the size of the shop. To give definite information I require notice."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR :—" Sir, will it not be in the interests of the administration that the stalls should be